



Atty. Dkt. No. 062834-0161

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: George H. HOFFMAN, et al.
Title: SYSTEM, METHOD AND
COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT
FOR A CONVENIENCE STORE
SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT
FRAMEWORK
Appl. No.: 09/815,688
Filing Date: 03/23/2001
Examiner: Elaine L. Gort
Art Unit: 3627

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

01/30/2004 JBALINAN 00000147 09815688

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TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.113, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

All of the documents are in English.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

FEE

A fee in connection with submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(c) in the amount of \$180.00 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) is attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date January 29, 2004

FOLEY & LARDNER
Customer Number: 22428



22428

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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By *Thomas J. Slocum* ^{Reg. No.} 43,430
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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Date Submitted:

(as many sheets as necessary)

1 of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number 09/815,688
 Filing Date March 23, 2001
 First Named Inventor George H. HOFFMAN et al.
 Group Art Unit 3627
 Examiner Name Elaine L. Gort
 Attorney Docket Number 062834-0161

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 GROUP 3

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		5,204,821		Inui et al.	04-20-1993	
		5,638,519		Haluska	06-10-1997	
		5,802,502		Gell et al.	09-01-1998	
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		2003/0208434	A1	Posner	11-6-2003	
		2003/0033192	A1	Zyman et al.	02-13-2003	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Date Submitted: _____

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	2	of	2
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Application Number	09/815,688
Filing Date	March 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	George H. HOFFMAN et al.
Group Art Unit	3627
Examiner Name	Elaine L. Gort
Attorney Docket Number	062834-0161

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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